



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of its establishment.

**Pryor, Bartlett, Brown C, Harris,
Porter, Shackelford, Smith V,
Summers**

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

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2015

HC 1059/DI 84



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of its establishment.

Whereas, The Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper was established in 1895 by co-founders George P. Stewart and Will Porter;

Whereas, The co-founders decided to expand their successful newssheet into a weekly newspaper in 1897;

Whereas, In 1899 Will Porter sold his share of the newspaper to George Stewart who realized the importance of local news;

Whereas, Stewart captured the local news market and outdistanced himself from his local competitors;

Whereas, The Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper soon set itself apart from other black newspapers and had an immediate and lasting impact on the Indianapolis community;

Whereas, Even though the main focus of the newspaper was on local people and events, the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper also reported on national events and solicited news from communities throughout the state and around the country;

Whereas, Throughout its history the Indianapolis Recorder



Newspaper has focused on issues of interest to its readers, including the achievements of individuals in various spheres, concerns for better education, housing, and health care for Indianapolis African Americans, the activities of the civil rights movement, profiling national figures including A. Philip Randolph, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Medgar Evers, Thurgood Marshall, and John F. Kennedy;

Whereas, In 1990, William G. Mays, the owner of Mays Chemical Company, purchased the Indianapolis Recorder to save a legacy;

Whereas, Beginning in 1998, a reconstruction of the Indianapolis Recorder began in earnest by focusing on the reputation, quality, integrity, and financial stability of the newspaper;

Whereas, The Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper circulation increased by more than 200 percent and the readership grew by 62 percent to nearly 100,000, outpacing other local weeklies;

Whereas, Active in the community, the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper has dedicated itself to local youth;

Whereas, The Recorder's nonprofit arm, the Indianapolis Recorder Charities, continues to expose high school students to the field of journalism by giving them hands-on experience and lessons from top journalists;

Whereas, The Indianapolis Recorder Charities plans to continue working with organizations with needs in the community not only through monetary donations but with staff members who possess a great interest in reaching out and helping the community;

Whereas, The vision of the founders of the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper was to create a publication that would speak to and for the people, a premise that The Indianapolis Recorder continues to hold in high regard today; and

Whereas, The Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper today is one of the top African-American publications in the nation:



Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly acknowledges the
- 2 countless contributions to the Indianapolis community, the state, and
- 3 the nation that have been made by the Indianapolis Recorder
- 4 Newspaper since its establishment in 1895. All 150 members of the
- 5 Indiana General Assembly thank this dedicated community servant and
- 6 urge the newspaper to continue working with and for the people of the
- 7 great state of Indiana.
- 8 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
- 9 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to President and
- 10 General Manager Shannon Williams.

